

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 3, 2003 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. By this Amendment, claims 1-14 have been amended to more clearly particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. No new matter has been added or amendments made that narrow the scope of any elements of any claims. Accordingly, claims 1-14 are pending in this application and are submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. The Examiner contends that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

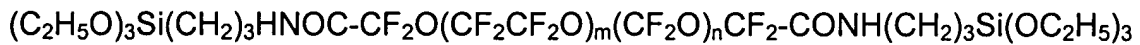
Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as it may apply to the amended claims. The claims have been amended to obviate the objection. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Examiner contends that the terms "derivatives" and "optionally" render the claims indefinite.

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as it may apply to the amended claims. The claims have been amended to obviate the rejection. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

The Office Action requires an election of a single species of the perfluoropolyether compound of the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Applicant respectfully elects the following species:

Bifunctional PFPE silane (I) having the following structure:



wherein, with respect to structure (I) of claim 1,

in the W group, $-Si(R_1)_\alpha(OR_2)_{3-\alpha}$ α is 0 and R_2 is C_2 ethyl group;

in the L group, $-CO-NR'-(CH_2)_q-$ R' is H and q is 3;

in the group between two L groups $-YFC-O-R_f-CFY-$

Y is F, and R_f is $-(CF_2CF_2O)_m-(CFXO)_n-$ wherein m is 3-8 and n is 2-4.

Support for the above elected compound can be found through the present specification, such as in Example 3 at page 10 of the specification. All of claims 1-14 are readable on the elected compound.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, allowance of claims 1-14, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

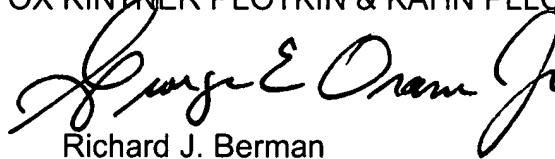
If this application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together

with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to
counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 108910-00032.**

Respectfully submitted,

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